Town Manager's Newsletter

October 2014



Jodi Ross, Town Manager

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October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Town Brush Chipping Saturday, Oct. 18th 10:30AM to 4:30PM Page 10

Reminder: Town Meeting is October 20th



Dear Westford residents,

This month I had the pleasure of conducting a neighborhood site walk of the former Graniteville Fire Station. Many residents and members of the Board of Selectmen were in attendance. The building and property were inspected and residents shared

their ideas for potential future uses. The Board of Selectmen, at their October 28th meeting, is inviting these residents to publicly discuss their ideas for the sale or reuse of this property.

Recently I appointed a 15 member 12 N. Main Street Task Force with the goal of evaluating potential reuse scenarios for the property at 12 N. Main Street, formerly known as Westford Anodizing. This committee,



Former Graniteville Fire Station, at 54 Broadway St.

which contains representatives from seven town boards/committees and five Graniteville neighborhood residents, has already begun to meet to generate potential reuse alternatives with associated cost estimates.

At their September 16th Board of Selectmen meeting, the board approved grants and contracts to continue work on a variety of town initiatives, including a \$50,000 Planning and Design grant from the Mass. Board of Library Commissioners, a new Social Media Archiving service by *PageFreezer*, and a contract to *Adams & Smith* for final design services for the Westford Museum building rehabilitation project.

I am pleased to announce our new Westford Radio Station, 1630AM. This station is dedicated to disseminating public safety/emergency communications during power outages and at other times, but we are evaluating whether we could incorporate other broadcasts such as play-by-play of Westford Academy football games, Saturday Night Live from the Parish Center for the Arts, a narrated tour of Westford to listen to as you drive your car around town, readings from early 20th century monographs or news from the Westford Wardsmen of 100 years ago for each corresponding day of the week - stay tuned while we work out these details and get things going.

The Selectmen approved the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Policy Directive, incorporating Finance Committee recommendations, which may be viewed here: FY 2016 Budget Policy Directive. The board also signed the warrant for our fall Special Town Meeting, which will be held at 7:30pm on October 20th in the Abbot School Gymnasium. It is critical that you attend as we need a quorum of 200 to start the meeting. The full warrant is available here: STM Warrant 2014. The warrant includes seven articles as summarized:

(continued on next page)

Article 1: Fiscal Year 2015 budget adjustments: to transfer from Free Cash \$57,289 to supplement the following operating budgets: \$5,000 to Board of Selectmen expenses for CrossTown Connect Transportation Mgmt. Assoc. fees; \$19,279 to Finance Department for Personal Services related to the addition of 12 hrs/wk administrative assistant support and the promotion of the Budget Director to Finance Director; \$3,950 to Planning Board for expenses related to the Drew Gardens Task Force; \$7,500 for Public Building Personal Services; \$10,000 to Fire Department for Personal Services to fund a collective bargaining settlement; \$11,560 to the Senior Center for Personal Services to fund a full time department assistant position, beginning in January 2015, and further, to transfer from Free Cash \$172,555 to fund the collective bargaining agreement for FY 2014 - 2016 with the Westford Police Association, and further, to appropriate \$28,723 from the Ambulance Enterprise retained earnings to supplement the Ambulance Enterprise Personal Services budget to fund a collective bargaining settlement, and lastly, to appropriate \$222,760.43 from the Water Enterprise retained earnings for the purpose of paying off the temporary note for the Route 110 Phase II (Boston Road to Nixon Road) Water Main Replacement Project.

Article 2: To vote to transfer funds between accounts: \$81,104 from Budget Director Personal Services to Finance Department Personal Services; and \$1,450 from Budget Director Personal Expenses to Finance Department Expenses; due to the promotion of the Budget Director to Finance Director and eliminate the Budget Director's budget.

Article 3: To appropriate from Free Cash \$89,260 to the Fire Department for Rescue Tools for the Rescue Pumper

Article 4: To amend the Pay Classification Plan for a non-unionized municipal employee in the Manager's Office, effective July 1, 2014: Project/ Procurement Specialist (Band 4).

Article 5: To transfer available funds to reduce the net amount to be raised by taxes for Fiscal Year 2015:

\$22,252.85 from Fund Balance Designated for Debt Exclusion Reduction and \$149,339.07 from Free Cash. Article 6: To vote to appropriate \$350,000 in Community



The Timberlake Property.

Preservation Funds to acquire two parcels of land on Tenney Road and Wing Road, known as the Timberlake Property, and authorize the Selectmen to grant a Conservation Restriction on the property. The Town's intention is to fund the remaining \$550,000 needed for the purchase through the Conservation Fund. Please note, the public is invited to view the land at 10am to noon on Saturday October 18th. Directions to the property are available here: Timberlake property.

Article 7: To vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to exercise its Right of First Refusal to purchase two parcels of land located at 66-68 Boston Road, Westford, MA, commonly referred to as Drew Gardens, for agricultural and farming purposes, for a purchase price of \$735,000.

The Board of Selectmen took positions on most warrant articles as follows: Articles 1 (sections 1, 3 & 4), 2, 3, 4, and 6 were recommended for approval 4-0. Articles 1 (section 2, funding for the Westford Police contract, and Articles 5 and 7 will be voted on October 14th.

In the near future, please do not be alarmed if you see liquor stores opening earlier on Sundays. New regulatory changes were issued by the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission pursuant to the hours of operation for licensed establishments. Effective October 23, 2014, liquor stores will be allowed to open at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays, as a matter of right, after an official notification to the local Board of Selectmen. At the September 30th Selectmen's meeting, A & P Spinners Market Liquors, 2-4 West Prescott Street and Westford Wine & Spirits, 9 Cornerstone Square applied for this change. For the October 14th meeting, seven additional establishments have applied for this change, including the Westford Package Store, 175 Littleton Road; Rapid Refill, 498 Groton Road; Nabnasset Liquors, 31 Nabnasset Street; Tedeschi Food Shops, 64 Brookside Road; Westford Market & Liquors, 6 Carlisle Road; Craft Beer Cellar, 142 Littleton Road; and Tedeschi Food Shops, 103 Main Street. (continued on next page)

Recently my office issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to construct a cell tower at the Highway Facility, consistent with town meeting authorization. Unfortunately there were no proposals received due to the fact the interested parties determined the reception in the area was adequate. We are evaluating whether there are other sites that are lacking in reception before we move forward with another RFP.

Thank you to our firefighters who recently pressure washed many of our town's Veteran's monuments. We hope to begin a regular cleaning schedule of these important structures, but the recent cleaning went a long way towards their beautification.

Speaking of the fire department, for I believe the first time in the history of the Center Fire Station, our dedicated public servants, specifically Captain Jim Barrett, Lieutenant Paul Lemieux, Paramedic Zach Driscoll and Firefighter Dave Lefebvre delivered a healthy, happy newborn in the driveway of our fire station after a young couple called ahead advising that the little baby was coming so fast they were not going to make it to the hospital. They pulled into the driveway and a few minutes later, thanks for our exemplary staff, they were holding their healthy baby boy.

Congratulations to Conservation Commission member Jim Gozzo who recently completed the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions Fundamentals for Conservation Commissioners course and received a Certificate of Achievement for his accomplishment.

I would like to give special thanks to Paul MacMillan for volunteering to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals, Bernie Meyler on the Affordable Housing Committee and Shari O'Connor on the Pedestrian Safety Committee. These appointments were approved by the board during their September meetings.

There are several openings on other local boards and committees, including Bylaw Review, Communications Advisory, Cultural Council, Historical Commission, Public Works Initiative Committee, and others, and I urge you to peruse our website for information about the work of these committees. If you have interest, please complete a Citizen's Activity form at this link: Citizen Activity Form or stop by and fill out a form in the town manager's office.

I hope to see you at town meeting!

Sincerely,

Jodi Ross



State Representative Jim Arciero recently honored Lt. Tim Bellmore and Capt. Dan Britko for their promotions to the rank of Lieutenant and Captain respectfully.



MIT Haystack Observatory
celebrated its 50th anniversary on September 29th.
(L to R) Selectmen Kelly Ross,
MIT Engineer - Herbert Weiss, Rep. Jim Arciero,
Town Manager Jodi Ross,
Fire Chief Joe Targ, and
Assistant Town Manager John Mangiaratti.

Council On Aging - Coming Events

NATIONAL GRID CONSUMER ADVOCACY PRESENTATION

On Friday, October 17th at 10 AM

Corey Manson will be here at Cameron to explain his new role in Massachusetts and meet with clients who may need hisassistance. The National Grid Consumer Advocate's mission is to "assist financially vulnerable customers by directly engaging with agencies such as healthcare centers, departments of social services, food pantries, and senior centers. Equipped with a laptop, the National Grid Consumer Advocate can review customer accounts, provide individual bill payment assistance, energy education, and information on low income programs and other services." Please feel free to drop in and hear about his role and how he may be able to help.

HARVEST FAIR

Come and support the Friends of Cameron and start your holiday shopping early.

Friday and Saturday, October 24th and 25th from 8 AM - 2 PM

white elephant table, bake sale, jewelry, Cameron apparel, Cat's Meow, handmade and quilted items, raffles, silent auction and food (hot dogs, soda, donuts and coffee).

Tables available to rent, please call

978-692-5523 for application. Volunteers needed for set up on Thursday,

Oct. 23rd at 12:30 pm and break down Saturday, Oct. 25th at 1:45 pm.

FUEL ASSSISTANCE

Fuel assistance re-certification applications for those receiving fuel assistance last year were mailed directly to you from CTI. Please complete and return the application ASAP. New applicants' appointments begin in November at the Senior Center for all residents by calling Alison at 978-399-2325. If you are a new applicant with a termination notice on a gas or electric bill please call CTI at 978-459-6161. They will schedule an appointment ASAP to avoid termination of utilities. If you received a renewal application in the mail and need assistance completing it please call Alison at 978-399-2325 or Annette at 978-399-2326.

HOUSEHOLD MAXIMUM GROSS SIZE INCOME

1	\$32.618
2	
3	
1	¢62,001

To view the complete

Council On Aging Newsletter

please visit our website at:

www.westfordma.gov/coa and click on Newsletters.



Westford Senior Center

J. V. Fletcher Library News

Library Awarded Humanities Grant

The J. V. Fletcher Library applied for and was awarded a \$2,000 Mass Humanities FAIR Grant (which stands for Family Adventures in Reading) which focuses on pre-teens. This grant will fund four fall programs (registration required) for children ages 10-13 and their parents and/or caregivers.



This unique program brings pre-teens and parents/ caregivers into the library for a shared experience. Children and their parents/caregivers read chapters from age-appropriate novels and then jointly attend a book discussion program. A Grant funded facilitator will lead them in thought-provoking conversations about characters, the challenges they face, and how writers connect their readers with other lives and worlds. The program includes art projects and exposure to the wealth of resources available in a public library setting. The young adult novels that are being read provide the touchstones and inspiration. Light refreshments will be served.

The program dates are as follows: Saturdays: October 11th and 25th and November 8th and 22nd, from 3 to 4:30 PM.

Sign up now and start reading!

www.westfordlibrary.org

Land Use Department

Interested in Open Space and Recreation Issues?

The Town is beginning the process of updating the Town's Open Space & Recreation Plan, which expires in January 2015. Information on upcoming public input meetings and the link to the online survey will be available soon on the Conservation Commission's page of the Town's website.

For more information, contact Danielle Evans, Assistant Planner at devans@westfordma.gov or 978-692-5524.

Health Department News

Westford Against Substance Abuse (WASA)

As part of the Westford Substance Abuse Prevention Week, The Health Department in collaboration with Westford Against Substance Abuse will hold an informational evening focusing on drugs. Author Melissa Weiksnar and the Westford Police Department will present information about what you need to know about drugs in our community.

Melissa is the author of Heroin's Puppet: The Rehab Journals of Amelia F.W. Caruso (1989-2009). Melissa Weiksnar's detailed and bravely honest account of the years leading up to her daughter's tragic death brings true insight into the challenges and angst of parenting a child suffering from addiction

Amy Caruso was born and raised in Carlisle MA. As a junior in the nursing program at Boston College and seemed to have everything going for her--brains, beauty, athleticism, career goals, a loving family, and many wonderful friends. But in November 2009, she admitted she was a heroin addict and voluntarily entered treatment. Five weeks later she died from an overdose at the treatment facility on the day after Christmas, weeks shy of her twenty-first birthday.

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Date: Monday, October 20

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Stony Brook Middle School Auditorium.

Guiding Good Choices

Thanks to a grant received from the Greater Lowell Health Alliance, the Health Department in collaboration with Westford Against Substance Abuse will once again be able to offer Guiding Good Choices. "Guiding Good Choices" is an exciting and interactive program for parents of middle school students. The course will give parents the skills they need to ensure the future well-being of their teen by learning to communicate effectively. Topics and discussion include: providing specific steps to develop strategic conversational guidelines with your teen; assisting parents in developing family guidelines and expectations for behavior; conflict management and the strengthening of family bonds; help parents increase teen involvement in the family; provide parents with 2012 Westford Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data; and help to facilitate creating a parent support network. This course will be taught by Ms. Kathy Bowen, Certified Life Empowerment Coach. Pre-registration is required call Ray Peachey at 978-399-2528 or rpeachey@westfordma.gov for more information.

Dates: Weds. Oct 15, 22, 29, Nov 5th

Time: 9:30 am -11:00 am Location: First Parish Church

Cost: FREE but a \$20.00 workbook fee is required.

Health Department News (continued)

PARENTING SERIES

Please join us for a series of educational sessions for parents co-sponsored by the Westford Health Department and Circle Health. Reservations Required. See dates below for deadlines:



BOOT CAMP FOR NEW DADS

This nationally-recognized workshop is taught by fathers and is for men only. Rookie dads (men expecting their first child) are oriented to the joys and challenges of fatherhood with the help of a coach.

Date: Tuesday, November 4 - Please call 978-692-5509 to register by Oct 28th

Time: 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Location: Town Hall - second floor meeting room

Instructor: Richard Krusemark.

BREASTFEEDING - IS IT FOR ME?

Is has long been known that breastfeeding, even for a short time, brings great benefits to the baby. Learn the art of breastfeeding. Discover the benefits for mom and baby, valuable tips and other information.

Date: Thursday, November 6 - Please call 978-692-5509 to register by Oct 30th

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Location: Town Hall- second floor meeting room

Instructor: Laurie Perras

BODY IMAGE STARTS NOW

Join us for answers about the impact of negative body image. We will also review eating disorders and other health issues that are often hidden by these disorders. You will learn to build your child's body image and shape their future in a strong, healthy way.

Date: Thursday, November 13 - Please call 978-692-5509 to register by November

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Location: Town Hall- second floor meeting room

<u>SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTS WITH CHILDREN WITH MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES</u>

This support group is free drop in group available to any parent who is concerned that their child might be struggling with a mental health issue. This can be something such as ADD, or some sadness, lots of worries or perhaps something more defined. This is a pro bono group offered for parents to come together and share ideas, offer support to each other and realize that they are not alone in our concern for our children. Facilitators are: Dianne Walsh, LICSW (Cognitive- Behavioral Therapist) and Sue Hanly, RN (school nurse).

Dates and Topics: November 4 - <u>Does Your Child Worry a Lot?</u>

Location: Large All Purpose Room Millenium

Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Cost: Free

Health Department News (continued)



WESTFORD PARENT CONNECTION CO- SPONSORED PROGRAMS

THE ROAD BACK

The Road Back is a powerful documentary that highlights the story of two high-achieving teenagers who are severely challenged by the pressures at home and at school. These students struggle with anxiety and depression, the stigma attached to mental illness, and the need to find the right help as quickly as possible. Join Circle Health, Westford Parent Connection, Westford Health Department, and Westford Against Substance Abuse for this film, which will be followed by a panel discussion.

Date: Thursday, October 23, 2014

Time: 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Location: Stony Brook Middle School Auditorium Call 978-692-5509 to pre-register by Oct. 20.

Walk-ins are welcomed.

HEALTHY TEEN RELATIONSHIPS

Teen dating is vastly different today than it was when parents were younger. What does a healthy relationship look like? Would you know the warning signs if your son or daughter were being abused? Join Maria Crooker from Lowell's Alternative House for a frank discussion about teen dating violence and learn ways to teach your kids how to stay safe. This free program is sponsored by Westford Coalition for Non-Violence, Westford Health Department, and the Westford Parent Connection.

Date: Wednesday, November 5, 2014

Time: 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Location: Stony Brook Middle School Auditorium

Call 978-692-5509 to pre-register by Nov. 1.

Walk-ins are welcomed.

Remaining Regular Flu clinics:

October 21, 6:00 pm - 8:00pm at Millennium

October 28, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at Millennium

November 7, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at The J.V. Fletcher Library

November 21, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm at The J.V. Fletcher Library

Homebound individuals, who require a home visit, should contact the Health Department at 978-692-5509 to schedule an appointment.

School-based flu clinics will be offered again this year to all Westford Public School students the week of Nov 10th. The FluMist Quadrivalent* nasal spray will be the only form of vaccine offered. Please fill in the application on line and send to the Health Department once completed. Additional information will be on the school listsery, WPS Superintendent's email, and the Westford Health Department listsery. Information will not be mailed to the students' homes.

Health Department News (continued)

Enterovirus Fact Sheet

What is enterovirus D68? Enterovirus D68 (EV 68) is one of many enteroviruses, a large group of over 100 viruses that can cause respiratory illness, diarrhea, rash and even meningitis and encephalitis. This particular virus was first identified in California in 1962. It has been circulating worldwide for several years, causing mild to severe respiratory illness.

What are the symptoms of EV 68? EV 68 can cause mild to severe respiratory illness.

- Mild symptoms may include fever, runny nose, sneezing, cough, and body and muscle aches.
- Some children, ill with EV 68 infection, have difficulty breathing, and wheezing. Most of these children had asthma or a history of wheezing.

How does EV 68 spread? Since EV 68 causes respiratory illness, the virus can be found in an infected person's respiratory secretions, such as saliva, nasal mucus, or sputum. EV 68 likely spreads from person to person when an infected person coughs, sneezes or touches surfaces contaminated with virus.

Who is at risk? In general, infants, children, and teenagers are most likely to get infected with enteroviruses. That's because they do not yet have immunity (protection) from previous exposures to these viruses. This appears to betrue for EV 68. Among the EV 68 cases in identified during August and September 2014, children with asthma had a higher risk for severe respiratory illness.

How is EV 68 treated? There is no specific treatment for people with respiratory illness caused by EV 68.

- For mild respiratory illness, you can help relieve symptoms by taking over-the-counter medications for pain and fever. Aspirin should not be given to children.
- People with severe respiratory illness should be seen by a healthcare provider and may need hospitalization.
- There are no antiviral medications available for people who become infected with EV 68.

Is there a vaccine for EV 68? No. There is no vaccine.

How is EV 68 diagnosed? EV 68 can only be diagnosed by doing specific lab tests. Respiratory illnesses can be caused by many different viruses and have similar symptoms. Not all respiratory illnesses occurring now are due to EV 68. Anyone with respiratory illness should contact their doctor, if they are having difficulty breathing, or if their symptoms are getting worse.

How can I protect myself from EV 68?

You can help protect yourself from respiratory illnesses by following these steps:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds, especially after changing diapers.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid kissing, hugging, and sharing cups or eating utensils with people who are sick.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as toys and doorknobs, especially if someone is sick.
- In schools and daycares, routine environmental cleaning and sanitation is required, especially of high-touch surfaces.
- Since people with asthma are higher risk for respiratory illnesses, they should take medicines for asthma
 prescribed for them and maintain control of their asthma. They should seek care early if they are
 experiencing respiratory symptoms. In addition, they should take advantage of influenza vaccine since
 people with asthma have a difficult time with respiratory illnesses, and influenza is preventable.

If my child has a respiratory illness, can he or she attend school? In general, children who are ill should be kept out of school until their symptoms improve. For children with chronic cough and/or reactive airway disease, children should return to school when they are clinically well enough to return.

Where can I get more information?

- Health Department web pages at www.westfordma.gov/health
- The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH), Division of Epidemiology and
- Immunization at (617) 983 6800 or on the MDPH Website at www.mass.gov/dph/enterovirus
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at

http://www.cdc.gov/non-polio-enterovirus/about/ev-d68.html

Recycling Commission - Fall Dates

Town Brush Chipping

Saturday, October 18, 2014 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Westford Highway Garage, 28 North Street

Fee: \$10 per load with new payment policy - checks preferred

The Recycling Commission and the Highway Department will conduct brush chipping for residents on Saturday, October 18, from 10:30am - 4:30pm at the Highway Garage, 28 North Street.

The fee is \$10 per load. There is a new payment policy and checks are preferred.

Accepted: Branches with maximum dimension 3 inches in diameter and 10 feet in length.

Not Accepted: Commercial refuse. Building materials (fences, boards), land clearing material, debris (roots and bushes, brush mixed with poison ivy), leaves, pine needles, and grass clippings.

Westford Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Saturday, November 8, 2014 9:00 AM to 1 PM

Westford Highway Garage, 28 North Street

Fee: \$20 per car with new payment policy - checks preferred

For HHW event flyer and more details, please visit www.westfordma.gov/recycling. Westford typically holds a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day every two years for Westford residents only. Proof of residency is required (driver's license, phone bill, etc.). Fee: \$20/car. New payment policy - CHECKS PREFERRED. Residents are encouraged to work with neighbors to consolidate volume.

Leaf Collections

Saturday, November 8th and Saturday, December 6, 2014

Acme Waste Systems will be collecting leaves. The cost is \$1.25 per bag with a minimum charge of \$20.00 per pick up. Call the Town Clerk's office at 978-692-5515 to register.

Place your leaves, grass clippings and pine needles into paper leaf bags and have them at the curb by 7 AM on the collection day. Leaves will not be picked up if they are not in paper leaf bags.

YOU PAY ACME DIRECTLY BY ATTACHING A CHECK PAYABLE TO ACME WASTE SYSTEMS TO ONE OF YOUR LEAF BAGS ON COLLECTION DAY.

REDUCE, REUSE, AND RECYCLE



Water Department News

Water Main Flushing

As part of our ongoing maintenance program, the Water Department is currently performing a comprehensive flushing of the water mains in the Forge Village, Town Center, and southern sections of Town.

Flushing began Monday, September 29 and should be completed by October 31. This schedule is subject to change as weather conditions and length of flushing times may vary. Flushing will be conducted between the hours of 8am and 3pm, Monday through Friday.

Flushing is critical to maintain water quality throughout the distribution system. Our flushing program involves opening fire hydrants and flushing valves to create increased water flows which dislodge and clean out naturally-occurring sedimentation in the mains.

Minor flooding of streets and periods of reduced pressure or no water service may occur. In addition, discolored water may result from the flushing so we recommend that you fill bottles with water for use during this time. If you experience colored water after the scheduled completion time,



please run the <u>cold water</u> for 5 to 10 minutes to clear your service line. If your water does not clear, you have concerns regarding this flushing, or if you need additional information please call the Water Department at 978-692-5529.

Please avoid washing clothes during the dates and times above.

The Water Department assures our customers that the water is safe to drink, and any discoloration should clear up quickly after running the cold water for a few minutes.

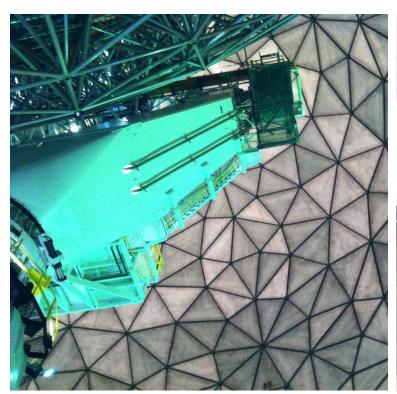
www.westfordma.gov/water

Scenes From Around Town



Intermediate Paving & Temporary Pavement Markings Completed

Contractors for MassDOT have completed installing the intermediate course of pavement on Boston Road, Littleton Road and Carlisle Road, including temporary pavement markings that define the travel lanes. Induction loops that control the traffic signals, based on the volume of queued vehicles, are scheduled to be installed by the end of October. Until then, the traffic signals will continue to function on a fixed time cycle. Work on the sidewalks, traffic islands and signs will continue until the arrival of winter weather. In the Spring, the Contractor will install the final course of pavement, permanent pavement markings and complete any other unfinished work.





MIT Haystack Observatory, located here in Westford, celebrated its 50th anniversary on September 29th. Haystack has fostered advancements in radio astronomy and provided valuable radar images of objects in space. Built in 1964, it remains a vanguard microwave facility, continuing to support the Laboratory's space control mission and the Observatory's science and educational activities.